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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE MAY 21 2002

TECH CENTER 1600.2300

In re the Application of:)
Applicant : DUMAS MILNE EDWARDS, et al.)
Appl. No. : 09/663,600) Grp./A.U. : 1646
Filed : September 15, 2000) Examiner : O Hara, Eileen B
Title : EXTENDED CDNAS FOR SECRETED)
PROTEINS.)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 15, 2001, in the above-identified application, Applicants hereby elect Group B, drawn to polypeptides, with traverse. Applicants further elect the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 186. Additionally, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner enter the following amendment prior to examination of the application on the merits.

Applicants request a two month extension of time for responding to the February 15, 2002 Restriction Requirement. The Petition for extension of time and its filing fee of \$400.00 is enclosed herewith.

In the Claims:

✓ Please cancel Claims 1, 3, 5-11, 13 and 14.

Please add new Claims 16-21 as follows:

16. (NEW) A purified and isolated Claudin polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of positions 1 to 206 of SEQ ID NO: 186.

17. (NEW) The polypeptide of Claim 16, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of positions -24 to 206 of SEQ ID NO: 186.

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